(c) and (d) To overcome the shortage of pilots, foreign pilots are employed by the airline operators after validation of their foreign licences.

(e) Recruitment of pilots is the prerogative of individual airline operator The Government has taken various steps to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled Indian pilots. These include conditionally increasing the age-limit to 65 years for pilots for exercising the privileges of their licences for commercial transport operations under prescribed conditions, upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enhance its training capacity, setting up of a world class Hying training institute at Gondia. Maharashtra and assistance to Hying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.

Mandatory flying checks for pilots

187. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some flying instructors are clearing aspiring pilots without conducting mandatory Hying checks that test their competence;

(b) if so. the details thereof; and

(c) the steps bcing taken to stop such practices?

THK MINISTI:K OF STATE OF TUP. MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PAfFL): (a) and (b) It has been reported in Ihe limes of India on 6th November. 2007 that Capl.AshimTaxali.ChiefFlying Instructor (CI I) of M/s. Carver Aviation Academy has cleared some student pilots without their Hight test. An enquir\ has been ordered by Director (ieneral of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to invisstigate the malpractices reported in Carver Aviation Academy. The final investigation report is awaited.

(c) Capl. Ashim Taxali has been removed from the CIT position in M/s Carver Aviation Academy pending final investigaiion. The position of CFI has been taken over b Capt. A.K. Mohan. Show Cau.se notices have been served to Capt. Ashim I'axali and the student pilots who fal.sel cleared by him. Further action will be taken al\er the finalisalion of the investigation.

Casualty in the security ar»a at Delhi Airport

188. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVLDI:
SHRI MOTI LAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ms. Sanskriti. an Aeronautic Engineer of Deccan Airlines was found killed in the security areaof IGI Airport, Dcliii on 22.10.07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether she was on duty at the moment of her death;

(d) whether the mestery of her death has been solved:

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not. the reasons therefor?

TIIL MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 22.10.2007 while inspecting the satellite apron.